



The [Social Security Administration \(SSA\)](#) manages the nation's social insurance program – consisting of retirement, survivors, and disability insurance – commonly known as Social Security. It also administers the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program for the aged, blind, and disabled. SSA also assigns Social Security numbers to U.S. citizens and maintains earnings records for workers under their Social Security numbers.

Although the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#) is the federal agency in charge of the Medicare program, the Social Security Administration determines entitlement to Medicare benefits and issues replacement Medicare cards.

If you are having a specific problem with your Social Security benefit that you cannot resolve and need assistance, information on how to open a case file can be found on my [Casework Resolution](#) page. If your application for a benefit has been denied, you have a right to appeal that decision if you do not agree. It is important to understand that there is a 60-day time limit from the denial during which you can ask for an

[appeal](#) or you may lose your right to appeal. Your appeal must be made to the Social Security Administration in writing within 60 days of the SSA denial. While I cannot appeal the decision for you, my office can assist you with understanding your options and once you have an appeal filed can further assist by assuring that your case gets a fair review.

I hope the following resources will be helpful to you in your search for information. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to [contact](#) my office.

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[Social Security Region 5 Office](#)
[Online Claims and Services – What you can do Online](#)
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Social Security Number and Card

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Widow, Widower, and Other Survivor Benefits

[Survivors Planner](#)
[Survivor Benefits for Your Widow or Widower](#)
[How to Report when a Beneficiary Dies](#)

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Disability and Supplemental Security Income Programs

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[Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\)](#)

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Social Security Appeals

[Office of Hearings and Appeals](#)

[Office of Hearings and Appeals that Serves Wisconsin](#)

[Information about your Hearing](#)

[Social Security Hearings Process](#)

[The Appeals Process Fact Sheet](#)

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Other Resources

[Direct Deposit of Benefits](#)

[Information and Resources for Employers](#)

[Information for the Self-Employed](#)

[Information for Women](#)

[Representative Payee Program](#)